

Congleton Rural District Council.

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1914.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.

I beg to present my Report for the past year 1914.

Medical Officer of HealthC. H. W.-Bennett.
Population at Census, 1901...	12,220
Population at Census, 1911...	12,845
Area in Acres...	40,155
Birthrate per 1,000	23.2
Deathrate per 1,000	12.2
Births registered in 1914	299
Deaths registered in 1914	175
Deaths registered in 1914, excluding Non-residents	157
Deaths under one year per 1,000 Births	56.8
Death-rate from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	44

The whole District is divided into three Sub-districts. they are as follows :—

SANDBACH, having an area of 17,857 acres, and a population of 8,745, includes Smallwood, Odd Rode, Church Lawton, Hassall, Betchton, Wheelock, Arclid, Bradwall, Tetton, Moston and Elton.

CHURCH HULME, having an area of 14,912 acres, and a population of 3,066, includes Goostrey-cum-Barnshaw, Blackden, Twemlow, Cranage, Leese, Church Hulme, Swettenham, Kermincham, Brereton-cum-Smethwick, and Davenport.

CONGLETON, having an area of 7,886 acres, and a population of 1034, includes Somerford, Somerford Booths, Hulme Walfield, Newbold Astbury, and Moreton-cum-Alcumlow.

Birth-rates for the Districts are :—Sandbach, 23.5 ; Church Hulme, 20.5 ; Congleton, 19.3.

Death-rates for the Districts are :—Sandbach, 13.1 ; Church Hulme, 10 ; Congleton, 9.67.

Infant Mortality.—17 Deaths have occurred in Infants under the age of twelve months, giving an Infant Mortality of 56.8 per 1,000 Births.

Zymotic Disease.—There have been 6 deaths from Zymotic Disease in the District, giving a death-rate of 4. The 6 deaths were from Scarletina 2, Whooping Cough 2, Enteric 1, and Enteritis 1.

Infectious Disease.—I have received 69 cases of Infectious Disease in notifications, made up as follows :—Typhoid 4, Scarletina 44, Diphtheria 16, Erysipelas 5.

Typhoid Fever.—One case occurred at Wheelock Heath and was removed to the Sanatorium ; this man had been working at Haslington and living there, he came home and was taken ill at his own home.

Of the other cases one was at Hall Green, one at Scholar Green, and one at Mount Pleasant. In each of these cases every precaution was taken to prevent the spread of this complaint, the dejecta being burnt or buried in quicklime after thorough disinfection.

Scarletina.—44 cases have been reported this year against 59 last year in the different localities. Elworth had 6, Lawton 5, Astbury 9, Betchton 1, Holmes Chapel 13, Cranage 2, Somerford Booths 4, Mow Cop 1, Rode Heath 2, Mount Pleasant 1. 19 of these cases were treated at the Sanatorium and the others at home.

Diphtheria.—16 Cases were notified this year against 17 last year. 1 at Rode Heath, 1 at Elworth, 1 at Lawton, 1 at Scholar Green, 5 at Mount Pleasant, 2 at Thurlwood, 1 at Hall Green, 1 at Wheelock Heath, 2 at Cranage, and 1 at Hassall Green. 15 of these cases were treated at the Sanatorium. Antitoxine has been supplied when wanted, a stock being kept at my house and the house of the Inspector.

Smallpox.—I am glad to say that we have had no cases this year in the District

Erysipelas.—5 Cases only were reported to me, they all recovered.

Infantile Paralysis.—No cases of this complaint have been reported to me during the past year.

Anthrax.—I have had no cases reported for two years, and I think the excellent precautions taken by the County are gradually stamping this disease out.

Isolation Hospitals.—The Hospital at West Heath was very full towards the end of the year owing to the outbreak of Scarletina in Congleton, and consequently we could not send so many cases there as I should have liked, but I managed to get in every case that could not be isolated at home or where premises were used as a public business and consequently would have been a source of danger if the case had not been removed. The Smallpox hospital was not required.

Water Supply.—There has been a small extension of the mains at Arclid, but there are several places in the District not supplied. The chief are Mow Cop and Mount Pleasant; the people there would be benefitted by a water supply. Then Smallwood is badly off, particularly Martin's Moss. Hassall Green will, I think, soon get a supply from Alsager. Astbury has not a good supply.

Cranage is badly off for water, there being several houses, and most of the residents having to carry water from the Holmes Chapel spout.

Sewage.—Mow Bank and Thurlwood want a system of drainage; at Elworth the Outfall Works are not giving a good effluent.

The Irrigation Grounds at the other places are working on the whole satisfactory.

Cowsheds and Dairies Act.—114 Milk Sellers are on the Register. These premises have been inspected from time to time and found wholesome and clean. 10 have been reported to the Council as not being satisfactory as regards their buildings. 8 of these have complied with the instructions given them and 2 are pending.

Tuberculosis Act.—Every case that is reported to me I visit and give instructions as to the best method to prevent the spread of the disease and also give anything necessary in the shape of Sputum flasks or disinfectants. I am also having their milk supply inspected and a sample submitted to the Bacteriologist as I think anything that can be done to stamp out this White Man's scourge is advisable.

Factory and Workshops' Act.—There are 78 on the register, these have been inspected regularly and found clean and sanitary. There were complaints in three cases but these were remedied and put in order.

Midwives' Act.—I am constantly inspecting the work of the Midwives of the District and have found no cause of complaint. They comply with the regulations laid down, and are careful and clean in their work. The only fault I find is that we have not enough in the district: there is no Midwife at Smallwood, none at Mow Cop, none at Goostrey, (the last place is badly in need of one).

No case of Puerperal Fever occurred this year.

Pollution of Rivers.—The pollution from Birchenwood Colliery still continues, and though the Cheshire County Council have it in hand and are trying to find a means of stopping it. The Birchenwood Co. are doing their best to help the farmers on whom the loss is heaviest, but I hope the pollution will be stopped soon.

Wholesomeness of Food.—The Inspector and I frequently inspect premises where meat is sold, but we have not found any meat which was unfit for food. No samples of food have been sent for analysis except milk.

Water Closets and Privies.—A few more Water Closets have been added.

Housing and Town Planning Act.—Only 13 new Houses have been built this year against 38 last year. 313 houses have been inspected under this Act, still leaving a large number to be visited. Holmes Chapel, Elworth and Astbury are short of Workmen's Cottages.

Slaughter Houses.—These have been inspected and found clean and in good order. In a scattered district like this it would not be practicable to have a Public Slaughter House. Two fresh ones have been built, 1 at Elworth and 1 at Brereton. This makes 9 in the District.

Scavenging.—This is done by Contractors in different localities, and they are doing their work better than formerly.

Lodging Houses.—We have only one Registered Lodging House, this has been inspected and found clean and not overcrowded.

Bakehouses.—The Bakehouses in the District have been visited and found well kept and sanitary. No Underground Bakehouses are in the District.

School Closure.—The Schools were closed in February for Whooping Cough at Goostrey and Wheelock, and for German Measles at Brereton. The Inspector disinfected the schools before they were re-opened with Formalin Vapour.

Inspector's Report.—The Inspector reports that he has made 3,188 visits throughout the District, received and answered 742 letters, reported 92 nuisances to the Council, and regularly inspected every part of the District, he has visited and kept under observation every case of Infectious Disease and seen that no case was being exposed to the danger of the community, disinfected every one of the houses on recovery or removal to the Sanatorium, he has inspected 52 Canal Boats and found two infringements which were want of painting and seen that they were put right, has read the Water Meters, the number of which are steadily increasing every quarter, and any available time he has used in inspecting houses under the Housing and Town Planning Act.

C. H. WENTWORTH-BENNETT,

M.O.H.

CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncor-rected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate.	of Non-resi-dents regist'rd in the District	of Resi-dents not regist'rd in the District	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1909	12220	328	328	26·8	188	15·3	24	2	21	64	164	13·4
1910	12220	304	304	24·87	169	13·83	18	3	30	98	154	12·6
1911	12845	304	304	23·6	142	11	27	12	15	49·3	137	10·7
1912	12845	253	253	19·69	198	15·4	26	8	28	110·6	180	14
1913	12845	321	321	24·9	175	13·6	26	16	20	82·6	165	12·8
1914	12845	299	299	23·2	175	14·1	25	7	17	56·8	157	12·2

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 40,155.

Total population at all ages, 12,845.

CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.			TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.	
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	Sandbach District.	Church-Hulme District.		Congl'ton Sub-District.
Small-pox												15
Cholera												
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	16		7	7	2				14	2		19
Erysipelas	5								5			
Scarlet Fever	44	1	8	28	7	3	2		16	15	13	
Typhus Fever...												
Enteric Fever...												
Relapsing Fever...												
Continued Fever	4				2	1		1	4			1
Puerperal Fever												
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis												
Poliomyelitis												
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	13			2	1	9	1		1	4	1	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3			1	1	1			3			
Totals	86	2	15	38	13	14	3	1	51	21	14	35

Isolation Hospital : West Heath Sanatorium and Arelid Small-pox Hospital, both provided by the Congleton R.D.C.

CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON-RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and up-wards	
Enteric Fever...	1								1	
Small-pox ...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet Fever ...	2	1		1						
Whooping Cough ...	2	2								
Diphtheria and Croup ...										
Influenza ...	2							1	1	
Erysipelas ...										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)...	4						4			
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	2	1		1						
Other Tuberculous Diseases...	2				1	1				1
Cancer, malignant disease ...	17							10	7	6
Rheumatic Fever ...	1				1					
Meningitis ...	2		1		1					1
Organic Heart Disease ...	18						1	8	9	6
Bronchitis ...	14	3						6	5	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	9		1	2		1	1	1	3	2
Other diseases of respiratory organs										
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	1	1								
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...										
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1								1	
Alcoholism ...										
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	5				1		1	2	1	1
Puerperal Fever ...										
Other accidents and diseases of										
Pregnancy and Parturition ...	2	2								
Congenital Debility & Malformation,										
including Premature Birth ...	4	4								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	12			1	2	3	3	1	2	1
Suicide... ..	2					1	1			
Other Defined Diseases ...	32	3		2		1		7	19	7
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	22								22	6
Totals ...	157	17	2	7	6	7	11	36	71	33

CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months & under 6 months.	6 months & under 9 months.	9 months & under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever								1		1
Whooping Cough								2		2
Diphtheria and Croup										
Erysipelas										
Tuberculous Meningitis								1		1
Abdominal Tuberculosis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)										
Convulsions						1		1		2
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis		1					1	1		3
Pneumonia (all forms)										
Diarrhœa... ..										
Enteritis						1				1
Gastritis										
Syphilis		1				1				2
Rickets										
Suffocation, overlying										
Injury at Birth	1									1
Atelectasis				1						1
Congenital Malformations	2									2
Premature Birth										
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus... ..						1				1
Other Causes										
	3	2		1		4	1	6		17

Nett Births in the Year : Legitimate, 299.

Nett Deaths in the Year of Legitimate Infants, 17.

RURAL DISTRICT OF CONGLETON.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

GENERAL ORDER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD

(MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH & INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES) December 13th, 1910.

TABULAR STATEMENT of Inspector of Nuisances for the year ending December 31st, 1914.

A		B				C		
		Number.	Number of Notices served.		Result of Service of Notices.	Notice complied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions.
			Statutory	Informal.				
Number and Nature of Inspections made.								
1.	Dwelling Houses (general inspections)	2410	38	59	67	25	Nil.	Nil.
2.	Cellar Dwellings	Nil.						
3.	Back-to-Back Houses	Nil.						
4.	Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c	Nil.						
5.	Courts, Yards, Passages	Nil.						
6.	Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets	257						
7.	Cesspools	not known						
8.	House Drainage	not known						
9.	Ditches, Watercourses, &c.	not known						
10.	Offensive Accumulations	not known						
11.	The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3))	not known						
12.	Offensive Trades	not known						
13.	(a) Slaughterhouses (Public)	Nil.						
	(b) " (Private)	9						
	(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold	5						
14.	Piggeries	Several						
15.	(a) Dairies	7						
	(b) Cowsheds	106	6	4	8	2		
	(c) Milkshops	1						
16.	(a) Factories	3						
	(b) Workshops	53	8					
	(c) Workplaces	10						
	(d) Outworkers' Premises	Nil.						
17.	Bakehouses (Overground)	11						
	" (Underground)	Nil.						
18.	Common Lodging Houses	1						
19.	Houses let in Lodgings	3						
20.	Smoke Observations	Nil.						
21.	Canal Boats	52	Nil.	2	2			
22.	Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits	256						
23.	Miscellaneous							
Totals			42	55	77	27		

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, YORK PLACE,
MANCHESTER.

**Bacteriological Examinations made during
the Year 1914 for
The Rural District of Congleton.**

Month.	Diphtheria.		Typhoid Fever.		Human Tuberculosis Sputum.		Bovine Tuberculosis Milk.	
	Total.	+	Total.	+	Total.	+	Total.	+
January ...	1	0			4	1		
February ...					5	0	1	0
March ...					4	0		
April ...	1	0			3	0		
May ...					2	1		
June ...								
July ...			1	0	2	1		
August...								
September ...								
October ...	1	0						
November ...	3	0			2	0		
December ...	4	0			1	0		
Total ...	10	0	1	0	23	3	1	0

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1914, for the
Rural District of Congleton, on the administration of the Factory and
Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces & Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	INSPECTIONS.	WRITTEN NOTICES	PROSECUTIONS.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	16	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	70	3	Nil.
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	10	Nil.	Nil.
Total... ..	96	3	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS.
	FOUND.	REMEDIED.	REFERRED TO H M. INSPECTOR.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts .—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	Nil.	Nil.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nil.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the Year.												Number.
Workshops												53
Bakehouses												11
Total number of Workshops on Register												64

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Nil.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1914.

CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT.

I. Adoptive Acts.

Which of the undernamed Acts is now in force in your District ?

1. Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890. Yes.
2. Notification of Births Act. No.
3. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Part III. Yes.
4. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. No.
5. Other Adoptive Acts. None.

II. Bye-Laws and Regulations.

State subject matter of any new Bye-laws or Regulations brought into force during 1914. A copy of any new Bye-laws or Regulations would be acceptable. No new Bye-laws.

III. Milk Supply.

				Number inspected during 1914.
1.	Number of Registered Premises at close of 1914 :—			
	(a)	Dairies ..	7	6
	(b)	Cowsheds ...	106	106
	(c)	Milkshops ...	1	1
2.	Number of Notices served for non-compliance with Regulations.			
	10.			
3.	Number of Legal Actions taken for non-compliance with Notices, &c. Nil.			

IV. Food Inspection.

1. Is this systematically carried out in your District ? No.
2. Number of Slaughterhouses in your District. (a) Public. Nil.
(b) Private. 9
3. Number of Inspections made of Slaughterhouses during 1914.
(a) Public. Nil.
(b) Private. Monthly or oftener.
4. Are systematic inspections made of premises other than Slaughterhouses where food is produced or sold ? If so, please state generally nature of premises so inspected. No.

V. Water Supply.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1914? If so, please append brief note. Yes, a small extension to Farms at Arclid.
2. Number of samples analysed during 1914—

Chemically, 4.
Bacteriologically, Nil.
3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your District still without a proper supply of water? Mow Cop and Mount Pleasant, Mow Bank, Hassall Green, Smallwood and part of Astbury.

VI. Pollution of Rivers and Streams.

In your opinion are any Rivers or Streams in your District polluted, or likely to be polluted at times, by any of the following ? :—

Source of Pollution.	River or Stream concerned.
(a) Public Sewage Disposal Works.	(a) Source of the Wheelock.
(b) Private Sewage Disposal Works.	(b) Nil.
(c) Solid matter (accumulations of cinders, refuse, sludge, &c.)	(c) Nil.
(d) House Drainage . . .	(d) Nil.
(e) Manufacturing waste or effluents	(e) Source of the Wheelock.

VII. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1914.
None.
2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your District still without a proper system of sewers? Thurlwood, Mow Bank, Wheelock and Holmes Chapel.
3. By what system is sewage disposed of? Septic Tanks, Bacteria Beds and Land Filtration.
4. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1914 as to the Disposal Works? Yes. Elworth.
5. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the Disposal Works during 1914? No.

VIII. Scavenging.

1. By whom is this carried out ? Contractors.
2. Approximate number of the following in your District ?

(a) Midden-prives	...	Not known	...	Fortnightly.
(b) Dry Ashpits	...	Not known	...	Weekly.
(c) Pail Closets	...	257	...	Weekly.
(d) Dustbins	...	310	...	Weekly.
(e) Cesspools	Cleaned by Occupier.
3. Is the present system in your opinion inadequate in any respect ? No.

IX. Housing.

1. Number of new Houses built during 1914. 13.
2. Number of Dwelling-Houses inspected under s. 17 Act of 1909. 313.
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation. 1.
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority. 57.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority. 0.
6. Number of houses where defects remedied *without* closing orders being made. 38.
7. Number of houses where defects remedied *after* closing orders made. 2.
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909. 2283.
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1914. 57.
10. Number of such houses closed after notice. 0.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c. Nil.
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in District. Nil.
13. Approximate number of cellar Dwellings in District. Nil.

X. Town Planning.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward for your District or any part thereof? If so, please make brief note of part of District covered by scheme. No scheme.

XI. Prevention of Consumption.

Kindly state action taken during 1914 under following heads :

1. Sanitary Inspection of patients' houses. Yes.
2. Disinfection of ditto. Yes.
3. Distribution of circulars containing advice. Yes.
4. Action to prevent spitting. Leaflets and spittoons provided.
5. Supply of disinfectant. Yes.
6. Supply of sputum flasks, paper handkerchiefs, &c. Sputum flasks.
7. Visitation by Nurses or Health Visitors. No.

C. H. WENTWORTH-BENNETT.

January 29th, 1915.

